

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A gene in humans and mice, designated C21, encodes a family of proteins that play a role in transcriptional regulation. Two isoforms (α and β) produced by alternative splicing has been identified in humans. A transgenic model was created that shows that over-expression of C21 in mouse hematopoietic cells alters myeloid development and suggests that members of this family are involved in regulating stem cell differentiation. Over-expressing C21 in 3T3 fibroblasts increases their resistance to apoptotic stimuli. The C21 protein forms a complex with a class of molecules that plays a critical role in transcription, the co-repressors of nuclear hormone receptors.

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